



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

MINNESOTA, Central and South Central

MNZ041>045-047>070-073>078-082>085-091>093 Douglas - Todd - Morrison - Mille Lacs - Kanabec - Stevens - Pope - Stearns - Benton - Sherburne - Isanti - Chisago - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Meeker - Wright - Hennepin - Anoka - Ramsey - Washington - Yellow Medicine - Renville - McLeod - Sibley - Carver - Scott - Dakota - Redwood - Brown - Nicollet - Le Sueur - Rice - Goodhue - Watonwan - Blue Earth - Waseca - Steele - Martin - Faribault - Freeborn

01 1200CST 3 1 200M Flood
30 2359CST

Heavy snowfall during winter remained on the ground through the end of March and then rapidly melted, resulting in river stages close to record levels. Water began to gush through drainage ditches, streams and into the mainstem rivers during midday April 1. Heavy rain April 7-8 over much of central Minnesota (see corresponding flood entry) prolonged the high water and also added one or two feet to many crests during mid April. Another period of heavy rain April 22-23 (see corresponding flood entry) caused rivers to crest again in late April and early May; in some cases the crest was higher than the first. Many rivers remained well above flood stage into mid-May (see May 2001 Storm Data). The crest at Montevideo on the Minnesota River was the second highest ever, only 1.3 feet lower than in 1997. The crest at Stillwater on the St. Croix River was the second highest crest ever, only 1.8 feet lower than in 1965. The crest on the Minnesota River at Henderson came within one half foot of its record level that was set in 1965. The Mississippi River at St. Paul, Hastings, and Red Wing crested at its third highest level ever, lower only than during the floods of 1965 and 1969.

Numerous roads and bridges were closed, millions of sandbags used, and approximately 200 homes and businesses were partially submerged with flood waters. About 100 homes and businesses were damaged beyond repair. Part of the Marsh Lake Dam southwest of Appleton (Swift County) eroded on April 7, but officials shored it up with 9000 tons of rock and gravel. Three fatalities were attributed to the flooding. Two boys (ages 5 and 8) in Olivia (Renville County) were playing on top of melting snow along a deep drainage ditch. They died when the snow collapsed into the drainage ditch with its torrential flow. The other fatality came when two men drove around a barricade on Highway 101 at Shakopee (Scott County) and drove into the Minnesota River. One 19 year old man died and the other was injured. M5OU, M8OU, M19VE

Benton County									
Countywide	07	0500CST			0	0	3M		Flood
	08	0500CST							
Chippewa County									
Countywide	07	0500CST			0	0	300K		Flood
	08	0500CST							
Douglas County									
Countywide	07	0500CST			0	0	200K		Flood
	08	0500CST							
Morrison County									
Countywide	07	0500CST			0	0	2M		Flood
	08	0500CST							
Pope County									
Countywide	07	0500CST			0	0	200K		Flood
	08	0500CST							
Stearns County									
Countywide	07	0500CST			0	0	6M		Flood
	08	0500CST							
Stevens County									
Countywide	07	0500CST			0	0	300K		Flood
	08	0500CST							
Swift County									
Countywide	07	0500CST			0	0	500K		Flood
	08	0500CST							



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

MINNESOTA, Central and South Central

Todd County

Countywide	07 08	0500CST 0500CST			0	0	200K	Flood
------------	----------	--------------------	--	--	---	---	------	-------

The same intense low pressure system that brought high wind to southern Minnesota also dumped a large area of 3 to 4 inches rain across west central and central Minnesota, on top of melting snow and saturated ground. Drainage ditches, still clogged with snow, were unable to accept most of this rain water. About 3000 homes in Stearns County and 500 homes in Benton County sustained water damage to basements. Several homes were flooded along Hawk Creek near Clara City (Chippewa County), as were about 50 homes in Chokio and Morris (Stevens County). Dozens of people were evacuated, though no injuries were reported. Hundreds of roads were submerged and some bridges flooded.

MNZ063-067-069>070-073>078-082>085-091>093 Washington - Sibley - Scott - Dakota - Redwood - Brown - Nicollet - Le Sueur - Rice - Goodhue - Watonwan - Blue Earth - Waseca - Steele - Martin - Faribault - Freeborn

07 1500CST	0800CST			0	0	8M	High Wind (M69)
---------------	---------	--	--	---	---	----	-----------------

A strong surface low pressure system moved out of the southwestern US and into north central Minnesota by the early afternoon on the 7th. This system produced numerous wind gusts in the 50 to 75 mph range across portions of southern Minnesota. The highest measured wind to be reported was 79 mph at Fairmont (Martin County). Other strong gusts that were measured include 71 mph at St. Clair (Blue Earth County), 69 mph at Waseca (Waseca County), 64 mph at Owatonna (Steele County), and 61 mph at Faribault (Rice County). Some damages of note include 30 homes with shingle damage in Mankato (Blue Earth Co.), Semi trailers blown over near Eagle Lake (Blue Earth County) and Goodhue (Goodhue County), roof off a barn near Cleveland (Le Sueur County), and a railroad cross arm blown over on power lines in St. James (Watonwan County). Strong winds estimated at around 70 mph (by the Ellendale Eagle newspaper) toppled a 45,000 bushel bin at the Cannon Valley Co-op Elevator in Ellendale (Steele County). A one hundred foot section of a turkey house roof in Lemond Township (Steele County), was torn away by strong winds. The Maple River school and bus garage in Minnesota Lake (Blue Earth County) incurred roof damage. Two fifty foot tall, WFS 50,000 bushel capacity empty grain bins were torn down near Mapleton in Blue Earth County. A large barn was destroyed, along with the Walters Liquor store building in or near Kiester (Faribault County).

Faribault County

Elmore	20	2120CST		0	0		Hail(1.25)
--------	----	---------	--	---	---	--	------------

Benton County

Countywide	22 23	1900CST 1500CST		0	0	500K	Flood
------------	----------	--------------------	--	---	---	------	-------

Kandiyohi County

Countywide	22 23	1900CST 1500CST		0	0	200K	Flood
------------	----------	--------------------	--	---	---	------	-------

Meeker County

Countywide	22 23	1900CST 1500CST		0	0	300K	Flood
------------	----------	--------------------	--	---	---	------	-------

Mille Lacs County

Countywide	22 23	1900CST 1500CST		0	0	300K	Flood
------------	----------	--------------------	--	---	---	------	-------

Morrison County

Countywide	22 23	1900CST 1500CST		0	0	1.5M	Flood
------------	----------	--------------------	--	---	---	------	-------

Redwood County

Countywide	22 23	1900CST 1500CST		0	0	100K	Flood
------------	----------	--------------------	--	---	---	------	-------



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

MINNESOTA, Central and South Central

Renville County

Countywide	22	1900CST			0	0	200K		Flood
	23	1500CST							

Sherburne County

Countywide	22	1900CST			0	0	2M		Flood
	23	1500CST							

Stearns County

Countywide	22	1900CST			0	0	1M		Flood
	23	1500CST							

Two to four inches rain fell on saturated ground. The most severe damage occurred in Santiago (Sherburne County), where a dike along County Road 11 gave way and allowed water to come crashing into town. About one dozen homes and businesses were flooded and evacuations were necessary. Other damage included flooded basements in Foley (Benton County) and Milaca (Mille Lacs County). County officials reported roads closed in portions of Benton, Meeker, Redwood, Renville and Stearns Counties, with some roads washed out. Intersections were flooded in Willmar (Kandiyohi County).

Redwood County

1 W Revere	24	1539CST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
-------------------	-----------	----------------	--	--	----------	----------	--	--	-------------------

Redwood County

Lamberton	24	1541CST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
------------------	-----------	----------------	--	--	----------	----------	--	--	-------------------

Martin County

1 S Truman	30	1834CST			0	0			Hail(1.00)
-------------------	-----------	----------------	--	--	----------	----------	--	--	-------------------

WISCONSIN, West

WIZ014-023>024-026

Polk - St. Croix - Pierce - Pepin

01	1200CST			0	0	10M		Flood
30	2359CST							

Heavy snow fall during winter remained on the ground through the end of March and then rapidly melted, resulting in river stages close to record levels along Wisconsin's western border. Water began to gush through drainage ditches, streams and into the mainstem rivers during midday April 1. Two to four inches of rain April 7-9 prolonged the high water and also added about one foot to the crest during mid-April. Another two to three inches of rain April 22-23 caused a second crest in late April. Both the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers remained well above flood stage into May (see May 2001 Storm Data). The crest at Stillwater MN on the St. Croix River was the second highest crest, only 1.8 feet lower than in 1965. The crest at Hastings MN and Red Wing MN on the Mississippi River was the third highest level, lower only than during the floods of 1965 and 1969.

A few homes and businesses in Durand (Pepin County) and Prescott (Pierce County) had water in basements, and one office building in Hudson (St. Croix County) was engulfed by the St. Croix River. Numerous county roads and bridges were under water, and the St. Croix River crossing between Houlton (St. Croix County) and Stillwater MN was closed from April 10th into the month of May. Kennedy Mills dam on the Apple River near St. Croix Falls (Polk County) was clogged by debris, causing an adjoining embankment to collapse. A section of another dam 10 miles east of St. Croix Falls also began eroding. Both dams were shored up and did not collapse.

WIZ023>024

St. Croix - Pierce

07	0915CST			0	0	1M		High Wind (M53)
	1500CST							

A strong surface low pressure system moved out of the southwestern US and into north central Minnesota by the early afternoon on



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

WISCONSIN, West

the 7th. This system produced numerous wind gusts in the 55 to 60 mph range across portions of west central Wisconsin. A gust of 61 mph was measured at the Hager City airport. Some damages of note include a mobile home blown over on its side in Rock Elm (Pierce county), roof damage to a school in Prescott (Pierce county), signs ripped loose, siding damaged on a business, and a semi trailer blown off interstate 94 in Roberts (St. Croix County).

Eau Claire County

Eau Claire	23	0923CST			0	0			Hail(1.00)
-------------------	-----------	----------------	--	--	----------	----------	--	--	-------------------

Chippewa County

6 E Chippewa Falls	23	0945CST			0	0			Hail(1.00)
---------------------------	-----------	----------------	--	--	----------	----------	--	--	-------------------